

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 INR-07 USIE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /042 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:THGERTH

APPROVED BY EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT

S/PRS:PPERENYI

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O R 212342Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 261497

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FORD MEETS HUNGARIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A WHITE HOUSE "NOTICE TO THE PRESS" POSTED TODAY BY THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING TODAY(OCTOBER 21) AT NOON WITH HUNGARIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS. THIS IS SENT FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY.

2 NOTICE TO THE PRESS

LEADERS OF THE AMERICAN HUNGARIAN COMMUNITY

DR. ZOLTAN BEKYPRESIDENT, AMERICAN HUNGARIAN FEDERATION

MAJOR GENERAL DONALD S. DAWSON, USAF RETIRED, ATTORNEY

MR. ISTVAN B. GERESEN, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, COORDINATING

COMMITTEE OF HUNGARIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

MR. TIBOR HACLCZ, PRESIDENT, FEDERATION OF FORMER

HUNGARIAN PRISONERS

MR. LASZLO HAMOS, CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN

ROMANIA

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THE HONORABLE FRANK HORTON

DR. ANDRAS POGANY, PRESIDENT, WORLD FEDERATION OF HUNGARIAN
FREEDOM FIGHTERS

MR. JOZSEF KOVAGO, FORMER MAYOR OF BUDAPEST

MR. LOUIS LOTE, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, COORDINATION OF

HUNGARIAN ORGANIZATIONS

MR. GEORGE LOVAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HUNGARIAN BICEN-
TENNIAL COMMITTEE

MR. LASZLO MOGYOROSSY, NATIONAL PRESIDENT, HUNGARIAN
FREEDOM FIGHTERS FEDERATION

MR. LAJOS HAJDU NEMETH, CHAIRMAN, AMERICAN HUNGARIAN
REPUBLICAN FEDERATION

A. BACKGROUND: FORMED UNDER THE BANNER OF THE COMMITTEE
TO COMMEMORATE THE AMERICAN AND HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION
(1776, 1956), VARIOUS HUNGARIAN ORGANIZATION MEMBERS
ARE CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNGARIAN
REVOLUTION.

1. THE THEME OF THE CELEBRATION IS TO REAFFIRM BELIEF
IN THE SELF-EVIDENT TRUTH "THAT ALL MEN ARE ENDOWED BY
THEIR CREATOR WITH CERTAIN INALIENABLE RIGHTS, AMONG
THESE ARE LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS,"
AND TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO FOUGHT AND FELL FOR
THOSE RIGHTS.

2. DURING A 30 DAY PERIOD, WHICH BEGAN IN BUDAPEST,
HUNGARY, ON OCTOBER 23, 1956, HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BY THE
HUNGARIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS AS A REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD
AGAINST TYRANNY. IT STARTED WITH 2,000 STUDENTS PEACE-
FULLY GATHERING IN HISTORIC PARLIAMENT SQUARE IN PEST AND
REACHED ITS CLIMAX WHEN 9,000 HUNGARIANS IN ONE DAY
CROSSED THE AUSTRIAN FRONTIER SEEKING FREEDOM ON NOVEMBER
23, 1956.

3. THERE WILL BE A DINNER FRIDAY NIGHT IN WASHINGTON TO
WHICH THE PRESIDENT WAS INVITED BUT HAD TO DECLINE.
HOWEVER, A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE
EVENT. DINNER CHAIRMAN IS CONGRESSMAN FRANK HORTON
(R-NY) AND LEO CHERNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHAIRMAN OF
THE BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE IS THE
GUEST SPEAKER. DR. ANDRAS POGANY, THE WORLD FEDERATION
OF HUNGARIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS, IS ALSO WITH CONGRESS-
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MAN HORTON ON THE EVENT.

THE GROUP ALSO PLANS TO MAKE TWO PRESENTATIONS TO THE
PRESIDENT WHILE THEY ARE HERE:

--A BOOK OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION ENTITLED,
"REMEMBER HUNGARY".

--A PLAQUE WITH A STATEMENT FROM REMARKS BY CARDINAL
MINDSZENTY ENGRAVED. (END OF NOTICE)

3. WE AS YET DO NOT HAVE THE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE FOR THE FRIDAY DINNER. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, PRESS RELEASES, NATIONALISTS, LIBERATION FRONTS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE261497
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: THGERTH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760395-1084
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761026/aaaaawno.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2004 by hartledg>; APPROVED <18 AUG 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT FORD MEETS HUNGARIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS
TAGS: PFOR, HU, US, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: BUDAPEST
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006